(b) to (d) Government of India, wherever feasible, have been releasing monthly entitlements of State Governments in advance apart from Ways and Means Advance to tide over the State's liquidity position.

A Fiscal Reform Facility has been created for a five year period with an Incentive Fund, under which Government of Manipur have drawn up a Medium Term Fiscal Reform Programme in order to achieve fiscal consolidation. Based on the Medium Term Fiscal Reform Programme finalized by the Government of Manipur, a sum of Rs. 54.38 crores for 2000-01 and Rs. 55.32 crores for 2001 -02 has been provided to the State Government from the Incentive Fund.

Financial deficit of North Eastern States

688.SHRI RISHANG KEISHING: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the financial deficit of the eight North-Eastern States including Sikkim as on today;

(b) whether there is any special plan to help the States to over come the deficit;

(c) if so, the details of the Plan; and

(d) if reply to (b) above is negative, whether such a plan is required on the grounds of extreme strategic, backward and remote positions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRIANANT GANGARAM GEETE): (a) The fiscal deficit of eight North Eastern States including Sikkim as per Budget Estimates for 2002-03 is as under :—

(Rs. in crores)

States	Amount
Arunachal Pradesh	-78
Assam	-2250
Manipur	-214
Meghalaya	-154
Mizoram	-137
Nagaland	-263
Tripura	-283
Sikkim	-48

(b) and (c) Government of India have created a Fiscal Reforms Facility with an Incentive Fund of Rs. 10607.72 crores including Rs. 2161.81 crores for North Eastern States (2000-01 to 2004-05). All the State Governments including North Eastern States and Sikkim have been advised to draw up Medium Term Fiscal Reforms Programmes to address the problem of fiscal imbalance on a long-term basis. The incentive grants are available under the Fiscal Reforms Facility for drawal by States who have achieved a minimum benchmark in fiscal improvement under their Medium Term Fiscal Reforms Programme evolved by them.

(d) Does not arise.

Amount collected under registration by Mohan Nagar Awas Samiti

689. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount collected for Registration under categories 'A', 'B' and 'C by Mohan Nagar Karamchari Sehkari Awas Samiti Ltd., Mohan Nagar from its inception in lumpsum or by instalments year-wise and the details thereof;

(b) whether such amounts have been reflected in Income tax return every year;

(c) if not, the reasons therefore; and

(d) what action Government have taken or propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Category-wise records are not maintained by the Samiti for the amounts collected from its members. However, year-wise details of total collection from its members is given in the statement *(See* below).

(b)Yes.

(c) Not applicable.

(d) A survey was conducted by the Income Tax Department on 15th February, 2001 at office of the Samiti. Scrutiny of its accounts was also taken up by reopening of its Income Tax assessment for Assessment